

REMARKS

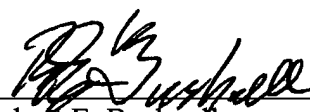
The Preliminary Amendment is being filed in order to further prosecution of this application.

The specification and Abstract are being amended to correct minor errors and improve form. Claims 1 thru 42 are being canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 43 thru 62 are being added. Thus, claims 43 thru 62 are pending in the application.

Corrected Figures 4, 5 and 9 are being submitted herewith in order to correct minor errors or omissions and achieve consistency with the specification, as originally filed. Specifically, in Figure 4, reference numerals 112 and 240 are being added, in Figure 5, reference numeral S3 is being added, and in Figure 9, one of numeral reference 261 is being changed to 262. No new matter is being added.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for examination on the merits, and early allowance and issuance are solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert E. Bushnell,
Attorney for the Applicant
Registration No. 27,774

1522 "K" Street, N.W., Suite 300
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 408-9040

Folio: P56323A
Date: 9/26/03
I.D.: REB/JGS